

Text: *Jonah 3:1-10*

1. What does the word "compassion" mean to you? When have you experienced compassion from God or someone else?
2. Lamentations 3:22-23 says, "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." What does it mean when the writer tells us that God's compassion never fails?
3. Read Jonah 3:1-4. How did Jonah receive God's compassion? Why did God want to give compassion to the Ninevites?
4. Jonah shared "God's message" with the people of Nineveh. Do we ever get in the way of receiving or sharing God's message? Explain?
5. How was God's compassion "right on time" for Jonah and the people of Nineveh? Describe a time when God's compassion had perfect timing in your life?
6. Read Jonah 3:5-9. What did the people of Nineveh do to demonstrate that they wanted to receive God's compassion? What do you think clothing yourself in "sackcloth and ashes" feels like (Esther 4:1-3)?
7. What should we do to show God we need His compassion? Explain.
8. God has a heart for compassion (2 Chronicles 7:14-15 & 1 Peter 3:8-9). What did the people of Nineveh hope God would do for them?
9. What kind of compassion do you/we need from God right now?
10. Read Jonah 3:10. Do we ever underestimate God's compassionate power to transform our lives and the lives of those we love? Explain?
11. What do you think of the description of Jesus found in Matthew 9:35-38?
12. How do you see Jesus? Is He a Good Shepherd?
13. How has Jesus shown compassion and mercy to you?
14. To close the group, pray, by first name, for one person you want God to show His transformational love and compassion to this week?